



Prevalence of dermatophyte fungal infection in Hillah, Iraq

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Abstract:The present study was designed to determine the prevalence of superficial fungal infections among the patients that were living in different circumstances in Hilla region, Iraq. From October 2012 to March 2013.200 patients with ages(1-76 years) were surveyed and examined for dermatophyte fungal infections by utilizing microscopy and culture predicated laboratory diagnostic methods.

The results revealed that 65% of the patients were infected with skin lesions followed by nail lesions (22.5%) and scalp lesions (12.5%). The prevalence rates of dermatophyte fungal infections were linked to the types of tinea infections, including tinea corporis (14.5%), tinea pedis (6%), tinea capitis (12.5%), tinea unguium (22.5%), tinea cruris (22.5%), tinea faciei (4%), pityriasis versicolor (27.5%) and tinea manuum (1%).

The proportion of fungal infection in rural area was more preponderant in comparison to urban areas. Concretely, in terms of percentages, the cases of tinea unguium, tinea corporis, pityriasis versicolor, tinea faciei were 20.83%, 14.58%, 15.62 %, and 8.34% higher in rural areas, respectively. Furthermore, the rate of percent infection by tinea pedis (8.25 %), tinea capitis (18.3%), tinea cruris (12.04%), Pityriasis versicolor (27.25%), tinea barbae (4.25%) and tinea incognito (4.58 %) were higher in male whereas the percentage of tinea unguium (38.46%) and tinea faciei (6.59%) infections were highest in female. In addition, study demonstrated that indices of tinea infection has been significantly associated with age. This study suggested there has been an exigent need to ameliorate the edification and morel culture values of peoples in addition to increment the economic condition of the society.

Keywords:Dermatophytes, fungal infection, living conditions.